

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Claim 1 (Original)** Blow moulding apparatus for the production of hollow bodies of plastic material, obtained from respective preforms, comprising:

- at least a blow-moulding die (100) containing a respective plurality of cavities for blow moulding respective preforms,
- a main conduit (1) for supplying gas into the cavities provided inside the blow-moulding die,
- a low-pressure gas supply source (103) connected to said main conduit (1) via a respective first supply channel (101),
- a controlled valve (102) associated to said first supply channel,
- a high-pressure gas supply source (104) connected to said main conduit (1) via a respective second supply channel (1-5),
- a second suitably controlled valve (106) associated to said second supply channel, characterized in that it comprises means for detecting and measuring the presence or absence of a gas flow passing through said second supply channel (105) at a pre-determined moment after the blow-moulding phase has started.

**Claim 2 (Original)** Blow moulding apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that said means comprise a differential pressure measuring device.

**Claim 3 (Original)** Blow moulding apparatus according to claim 2, characterized in that said differential pressure measuring device comprises:

- two at least partially hollow tubes (3, 4) arranged so as to extend crosswise across said second supply channel,
- said tubes being positioned in different sections, i.e. one (3) situated at a more downstream location and the other (4) at a more upstream location along the flowpath of said second supply channel (105),

- each such tube being provided with a respective port (5, 6) on a side of the respective surface thereof,

- each one of said ports being associated with a respective pressure sensor (7, 8) for sensing the pressure as measured inside the respective tube.

**Claim 4 (Original)** Blow moulding apparatus according to claim 3, characterized in that one port (5) is oriented against the direction of flow of the gas flowing in from the high-pressure gas supply source (104), and the other port (6) is oriented in agreement with said gas flow direction, in such a manner that said ports are exposed to at least part of the dynamic pressure and at least part of the dynamic negative pressure entrained by said gas, respectively.

**Claim 5 (Original)** Blow moulding apparatus according to claim 2, characterized in that said differential pressure measuring device comprises:

- two hollow, mutually aligned tubes (51, 52) arranged so as to extend crosswise across said second supply channel (105), substantially in the same section thereof,

- each such tube being provided with a respective port (53, 54) on a side of the respective surface thereof, said ports being aligned with the direction of flow of said gas, but oriented in a substantially opposite manner,

- each one of said ports being associated with a respective pressure sensor (7, 8) for sensing the pressure as measured inside the respective tube.

**Claim 6 (Original)** Blow moulding apparatus according to claim 2, characterized in that said differential pressure measuring device comprises:

- a single hollow tube (62) arranged so as to extend crosswise across said second supply channel,

- said tube being provided with two distinct ports (60, 61) in the surface thereof,

- in which a first port (60) is oriented against the direction of flow of the gas flowing in from the high-pressure gas supply source, and the other port (61) is oriented in agreement with

said gas flow direction, in such a manner that said ports are exposed to at least part of the dynamic pressure and at least part of the dynamic negative pressure entrained by said gas, respectively.

**Claim 7 (Original)** Blow moulding apparatus according to claim 6, characterized in that said single transversally arranged tube (62) is closed internally by an appropriate partition wall (63) provided at a location between said first port (60) and said second port (61), in such a manner that in said single tube there are created two distinct chambers (65, 66) opening independently into said second supply channel (105).

**Claim 8 (Currently Amended)** Blow moulding apparatus according to claim 5 ~~any of the preceding claims 5 to 7~~, characterized in that said single tube or said two tubes is/are provided with two non-communicating inner cavities, and said differential pressure measuring device (10) comprises two distinct pressure sensors for detecting the pressure within said two cavities.

**Claim 9 (New)** Blow moulding apparatus according to claim 6, characterized in that said single tube or said two tubes is/are provided with two non-communicating inner cavities, and said differential pressure measuring device (10) comprises two distinct pressure sensors for detecting the pressure within said two cavities.

**Claim 10 (New)** Blow moulding apparatus according to claim 7, characterized in that said single tube or said two tubes is/are provided with two non-communicating inner cavities, and said differential pressure measuring device (10) comprises two distinct pressure sensors for detecting the pressure within said two cavities.